

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 11, lines 6 – 16, please replace the paragraph as follows:

In general terms, an ITCS device may be implanted under the skin in the chest region of a patient. The ITCS device may, for example, be implanted subcutaneously such that all or selected elements of the device are located on the patient's front, back, side, or other body locations suitable for sensing cardiac activity and delivering cardiac stimulation therapy. It is understood that elements of the ITCS device may be located at several different body locations, such as in the chest, abdominal, or subclavian region with electrode elements respectively located at different regions near, around, in, or on the heart. Examples of electrode configurations, elements of which may be located in accordance with the present invention, are disclosed in commonly owned ~~US Patent Application No. 10/465,520, filed June 19, 2003~~U.S. Publication No. 2004/0230230, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

At page 16, lines 6 – 18, please replace the paragraph as follows:

Depending on the configuration of a particular ITCS device, a delivery system can advantageously be used to facilitate proper placement and orientation of the ITCS device housing and subcutaneous electrode(s). According to one configuration of such a delivery system, a long metal rod similar to conventional trocars can be used to perform small diameter blunt tissue dissection of the subdermal layers. This tool may be pre-formed straight or curved to facilitate placement of the subcutaneous electrode, or it may be flexible enough to allow the physician to shape it appropriately for a given patient. Examples of delivery tools, elements of which can be incorporated into an ITCS device delivery tool, are disclosed in commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 5,300,106; ~~US Patent Application No. 10/625,833, filed July 23, 2003; US Patent Application No. 10/625,826 filed July 23, 2003; and US Patent Application No. 10/653,456 filed September 2, 2003~~U.S. Publication No. 2004/0204735; U.S. Publication No. 2004/0204734; and U.S. Publication No. 2004/0204728; which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

At page 21, lines 25 – 28 and page 22, lines 1 – 13, please replace the paragraph as follows:

An ITCS device may be implemented to include a subcutaneous electrode system that provides for cardiac sensing and arrhythmia therapy. According to this approach, an ITCS device may be implemented as a chronically implantable system that performs monitoring, diagnostic and/or therapeutic functions. The ITCS device may automatically detect and treat cardiac arrhythmias. In one configuration, the ITCS device includes a pulse generator and one or more electrodes that are implanted subcutaneously in the chest region of the body, such as in the anterior thoracic region of the body. The ITCS device may be used to provide atrial and ventricular therapy for bradycardia and tachycardia arrhythmias. Tachyarrhythmia therapy may include cardioversion, defibrillation and anti-tachycardia pacing (ATP), for example, to treat atrial or ventricular tachycardia or fibrillation. Bradycardia therapy may include temporary post-shock pacing for bradycardia or asystole. Methods and systems for implementing post-shock pacing for bradycardia or asystole are described in commonly owned U.S. ~~Patent Application~~ ~~entitled "Subcutaneous Cardiac Stimulator Employing Post Shock Transthoracic Asystole~~ ~~Prevention Pacing, Serial Number 10/377,274, filed on February 28, 2003~~ Publication No. 2004/0172066, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.